

RECYCLING WORKS

It's Good Business

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King County Green Works

Turns the Corner

A Good Thing Just Keeps Getting Better

Change is inevitable. It's one of life's guarantees. And after more than a decade of helping thousands of businesses successfully prevent waste and recycle, King County's Green Works Program will make some changes.

As part of Green Works' commitment to continuously improve and refine services, a thorough evaluation of the business assistance program was conducted. And then the light went on.

So Green Works turns the corner in 2002, taking the opportunity to roll out some new and expanded services. Here's what you can expect in the coming months.

Helping You Do Business Better

In the past, membership had its privileges. But a survey of 350 current members has prompted us to end the membership component of the Green Works Program as of December 31, 2001. The majority of our members:

- Requested that the Green Works Program provide more information and assistance; and
- Downplayed the importance of the regional promotion (the centerpiece of the membership program) provided for members via print and radio advertisements.

Beginning in January 2002, the expanded **Green Works Business Assistance Program** will offer the following services:

1. TAILORED PROGRAMS

- Customized assistance to address the specific needs of your business.
- New programs designed to assist property managers, janitorial services, small businesses and schools (K-12) with recycling, resource conservation and waste management.



“The primary goal will remain the same—to help businesses reduce waste and conserve resources.”

- Access to other County programs focusing on commercial food waste, construction waste and conservation in the building development industry.
- Recognition of outstanding businesses will continue, although not within the structure of a “one-size-fits-all” membership program. Recognition and incentives will be provided in a variety of ways within the tailored programs listed above.

2. A WIDER RANGE OF CONSERVATION INFORMATION

Green Works will provide information about water and energy conservation, and referrals to agencies that specialize in assisting businesses with these conservation practices.

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KING COUNTY

GreenWorks Turns the Corner

continued from front page

What Will Stay the Same?

The primary goal of Green Works will remain the same—to help King County businesses reduce waste and conserve resources. The following core services will continue:

- Telephone hotline and email assistance to provide businesses with timely answers to questions about waste prevention and recycling.
- A quarterly newsletter with information about how to increase and improve recycling, waste prevention and conservation practices.
- A comprehensive online database of local and national recycling and reuse service providers. The database can be searched by material at www.metrokc.gov/greenworks (click on the “Reuse and Recycling database” link).

Membership Applications Accepted through December 2001

Applications for the Green Works membership program are still being accepted. If your business is in the process of filling out an application, we invite you to submit your application before the December 31, 2001 deadline. Feel free to call us if you need help completing the application.

New members will receive recognition in the next Recycling Works newsletter and promotion in early 2002.

If your business would like to participate in other available membership programs, please refer to the sidebar article to the right entitled “Business Recognition Programs.” This list was compiled to help you select the best membership program for your business.

Take Advantage of These Services and Keep Up the Green Work!

Please call us! We are here to serve your business with information and assistance tailored to meet your needs. Please call 206-296-8800 or email greenworks.swd@metrokc.gov if you would like more information or assistance.

Be sure to look at the “Cut the Waste” box on page 5 of this newsletter. For up-to-date information about the Green Works program, visit www.metrokc.gov/greenworks. Your good practices make the difference in protecting our region’s natural resources. Keep up the Green Work! ☺

Business Assistance & Recognition Programs

Listed below are local and national programs that assist businesses and provide recognition for their conservation efforts and achievements. Since the membership component of King County’s Green Works Business Assistance Program will end December 31, 2001, this list offers different options to businesses that might want to join other membership programs.

SOLID WASTE

WasteWise

A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) voluntary partnership program through which partners receive technical assistance and recognition for their municipal solid waste reduction efforts.

Telephone: 1-800-EPA-WISE (1-800-372-9473)

Email: ww@cais.net

Website: www.epa.gov/wastewise

HAZARDOUS WASTE

EnviroStars

A regional program that certifies businesses for their efforts to prevent pollution and reduce hazardous waste, provided by local agencies in partnership with the Puget Soundkeeper Alliance. EnviroStars is a service of the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County, King County Department of Natural Resources.

Telephone: 206-263-3063 or 1-877-220-7827

Website: www.envirostars.com

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Energy Star

A national EPA program to help businesses of all sizes perform energy efficient upgrades. Visit their website to receive free technical help, for listings of products and services, to calculate potential savings based on upgrades and to get a no-cost upgrade manual.

Telephone: 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937)

Website: www.energystar.gov

GREENHOUSE EMISSIONS

Climate Wise

Assists businesses to track and reduce greenhouse emissions by making improvements in energy and resource efficiency. Also offers publicity for voluntary actions. Climate Wise offers a comprehensive approach to environmental performance by coordinating free local and regional services as an integrated package. Administered by Seattle City Light in cooperation with Seattle Public Utilities, the Seattle Business and Industry Resource Venture and other service providers.

Telephone: 206-684-3954

Website: www.ci.seattle.wa.us/light/conserve/business/climatewise

WATER CONSERVATION

WAVE (Water Alliances for Voluntary Efficiency)

The mission of this national program is to encourage commercial businesses and institutions to reduce water consumption while increasing efficiency, profitability and competitiveness.

Telephone: 202-564-0623

Website: www.epa.gov/owmitnet/wav_part.htm

GENERAL RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

National Environmental Performance Track

A national program designed to recognize and encourage top environmental performers—those who go beyond compliance with regulatory requirements to attain levels of environmental performance and management that benefit people, communities and the environment.

Telephone: 1-888-339-PTRK

Website: www.epa.gov/performance-track

On the Road Again

Renton Company Takes the Path of Reuse in Repaving with Debris

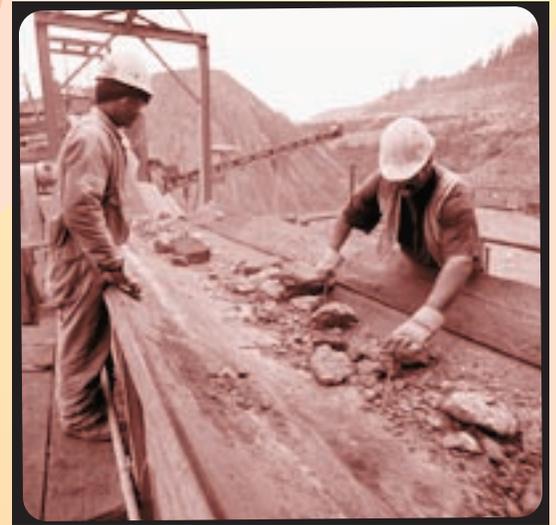
Have you ever wondered what's in — and under — the road you're driving on as you make the morning commute or the quick trip down to the grocery store?

If that stretch of thoroughfare was constructed recently, you may be motoring over part of the Kingdome. If crews are currently patching a pothole in front of your business, you could soon be driving over some of the 5,000 water-wasting toilets recently rounded up by local water agencies.

These are just a couple of examples of the materials Renton Concrete Recyclers recently processed at their plant, located on the former Black River Quarry site north of I-405 in Renton. Renton Concrete's employees turn mountains of rubble into materials for road fill. The plant also manufactures products for lighter jobs such as sidewalk fill, driveways or paths, turning out an estimated 200,000 tons of rejuvenated fill each year.

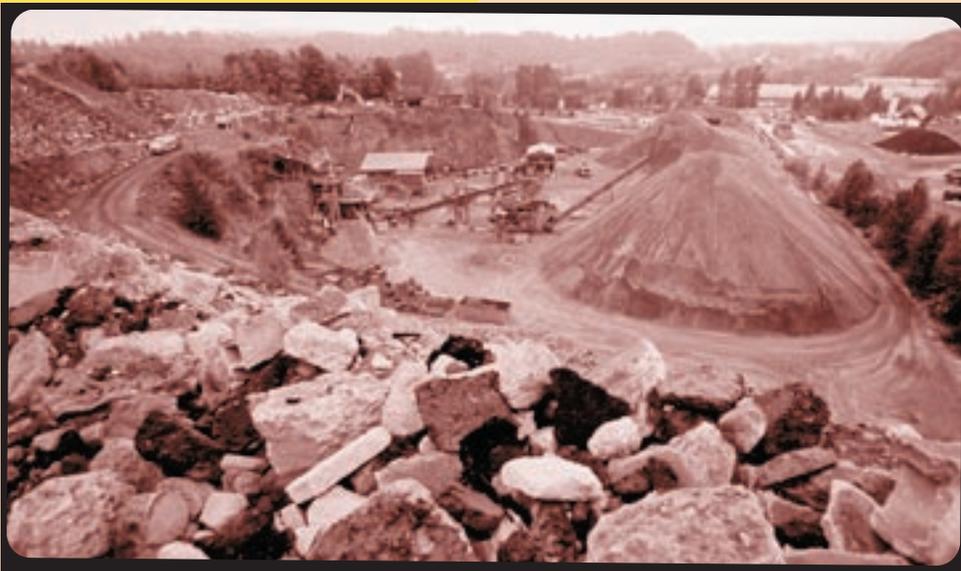
Transportation authorities have begun to incorporate recycled materials specifications into their rules governing roadway construction and repair. The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) tests recycled concrete, porcelain, brick, ceramic, asphalt, glass, used tires, and steel and copper slag to assess their usability in road construction. Some materials don't work as well as others. For example, WSDOT suspended approval for using recycled tires after construction crews had difficulties using them in projects where a lighter roadbed was required.

Contractors, homeowners, local cities, King County, the Port of Seattle and demolition crews bring their loads in and are charged roughly \$6.50



Employees of Renton Concrete Recyclers sort rubble that will eventually be placed under roads, sidewalks and driveways.

Crushed demolition debris, including bits of the Kingdome and water-wasting toilets, are turned into mountains of fill.



per yard for rubble measuring two feet or less, and \$7.50 per yard for rubble two to four feet in size.

Renton Concrete Recyclers is one of several facilities in King County that accepts and recycles concrete, asphalt, brick, stone and other similar materials. Such recyclers offer local businesses a cost-effective means of recycling rubble — and an opportunity to purchase materials that fulfill job needs as well as or better than virgin materials at a fraction of the cost.

To find out more about Renton Concrete Recyclers, call 206-772-2278. To locate recycling options for rubble — and also for everything from auto bumpers to video cassettes — visit the King County Recycling and Reuse online database at www.metrokc.gov/greenworks (and select "Reuse and Recycling Database") or call King County's Green Works Business Assistance Program at 206-296-8800. ☺

King County To Host National Recycling Coalition Conference

King County will host the prestigious National Recycling Coalition (NRC)'s Annual Congress and Exposition, scheduled for January 13–16, 2002 in Seattle.

The NRC is a nonprofit organization

dedicated to advancing and improving recycling, composting and reuse systems. Workshops, displays, and tours of area processing plants, recycling centers and composting facilities will be offered.

To learn more, visit dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/bizprog/what_new/new.htm. To register for the conference, or for more information about the NRC, visit online at www.nrc-recycle.org or call 703-683-9025. ☺

What's Acceptable?

King County's New Business Waste Acceptance Rules

When it comes to waste, well, some things are just no longer acceptable. King County occasionally makes changes to its Waste Acceptance Rules. There are plenty of good reasons why, including pending state or federal regulations, public safety and a clean environment.

Here's the rundown of the King County Solid Waste Division's new restrictions from a revised list of materials accepted from commercial customers at transfer stations. These revisions do not apply to residents.

Computer monitors will no longer be accepted for disposal

Computer components and electronic equipment are now the single largest source of lead in municipal solid waste. A single monitor contains 3-8 lbs. of lead, so it's no wonder that King County is concerned about the hazards posed by improper disposal.

King County's new acceptance policy recognizes improved monitor recycling opportunities, along with anticipated changes that should toughen federal and state regulations.

"Many Puget Sound businesses have looked to the landfill as a final resting place for obsolete computers. But computer components often contain heavy metals, and can be recycled or reused by a growing number of recycling businesses," said Pam Bissonette, Director of King County Department of Natural Resources.

Businesses can no longer dispose of monitors in dumpsters or at transfer stations. Violations will first prompt a warning, then risk fines starting at \$100 and escalating to thousands of dollars for repeat offenses.

How can businesses recycle old monitors? Visit King County's Computer Recovery Project website at dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/crp.htm or call 206-296-8800.

Transfer stations in King County will no longer accept certain materials

Fluorescent lights and some other types of lamps no longer accepted

Fluorescent lighting tubes, high intensity discharge lamps (including mercury vapor, metal halide and high-pressure sodium) and neon lights from businesses will not be accepted. The good news is that local and national recycling opportunities are now available. See "Reuse and Recycling Options" below.

Cable & wire rope over eight feet long only accepted with advance clearance

Cable and wire rope eight feet or longer, including electrical wire, will be accepted only with advanced clearance and a scheduled appointment. Wire tangled in landfill equipment prompted this rules change.

Check out the Green Works "Reuse and Recycling Database" (and select "metal") to locate recyclers accepting these materials. To obtain advanced clearance for disposal, call 206-296-4418 or 206-296-8475.

Reuse and Recycling Options

Call the Green Works hotline at 206-296-8800 or visit the King County "Reuse and Recycling Database" online at (and select "Reuse and Recycling Database") to find options for handling materials covered in this article.

For More Information

The complete King County Waste Acceptance Rules are available online at dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/SWDINFO/acceptpolicy.htm.

It's wise to call ahead regarding waste acceptance policies. A list of transfer station locations and hours can be found at dnr.metrokc.gov/swd/SWDINFO/XFERSTA2.htm, or call 206-296-6542 (1-800-833-6388 TTY Relay Service).



The Waste From Our Electronic Era

Broken and outdated electronic products, or "e-waste," are becoming one of the fastest growing waste streams. E-waste already makes up two to five percent of municipal solid waste and can contain toxic materials and heavy metals that should not be put in the trash.

Electronics manufacturers and recyclers, local government agencies and nonprofit organizations are meeting to address this problem in a joint effort called the Western Electronics Product Stewardship Initiative, or WEPSI. To become involved in WEPSI, contact Wayne Rifer at 503-644-0294 or email at wrifer@concentric.net.

Manufacturers, Recyclers, Governments & Nonprofits Tackle Growing Problem

Cut The Waste!



*How On Earth Do We Get Rid Of This Stuff??
How Do We Start A Recycling Program??*



CALL TODAY FOR HELP: 206-296-8800

The King County Green Works Program has answers to your questions about recycling, waste prevention, and conserving resources such as water and electricity.

GREEN WORKS OFFERS BUSINESSES:

- Useful tips on how to start and expand recycling programs;
- Free site visits by trained staff;
- Lists of local reuse and recycling services for materials like paper, cardboard, metals, glass, plastics and even computer equipment, carpeting, cell phones and other materials; and
- Referrals to agencies that assist with energy and water conservation and hazardous waste prevention.

Call the Green Works Business Assistance Program at 206-296-8800 today so that your business can start saving and conserving right away. Visit our website at www.metrokc.gov/greenworks or email us at greenworks.swd@metrokc.gov for more information. •

New Green Works Members

- Jay Lazerwitz Art and Architecture, *Seattle*
- The Mitered Corner, *Seattle*
- Whole Foods Market, Inc., *Seattle*



KING COUNTY

GreenWorks

Have a Waste-Free Holiday!



Are you wondering what gifts to give your suppliers, clients and employees — or friends and family — during the fast approaching holiday season? And did you know that an extra one million tons of trash is generated nationwide every week during the holiday season?

This year, you can help to reduce waste — and impress others with your thoughtfulness — by giving experiences instead of stuff.

Through King County's Waste-Free Holidays Program, you can purchase discounted tickets and gift certificates to a variety of entertainment and sporting events,

movies, museums and even restaurants. The discounts begin on Friday, November 23 (the day after Thanksgiving) and continue through the end of December.

Waste Free Holidays is a partnership between King County's Solid Waste Division and more than one hundred participating theatres, restaurants and other local businesses offering the discounts.

For a list of discounted experiences, call the King County Waste Reduction & Recycling Information line at 206-296-4466 or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY Relay). And, beginning November 23, call 206-NO-STUFF (206-667-8833) or visit www.metrokc.gov and click on the Waste-Free Holidays link. •

Give Experiences Instead of Stuff

so what is **Green Works?**

Green Works is a waste prevention and recycling assistance program for businesses. It is sponsored by the King County Solid Waste Division, and King County suburban cities. If your business needs help reducing waste or finding a company to recycle your office paper, aluminum cans or even used office equipment, give us a call at 206-296-8800 or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY Relay); visit our web site at www.metrokc.gov/greenworks; fax us at 206-296-4475; or email us at greenworks.swd@metrokc.gov.

Recycling Works

Recycling Works is a quarterly newsletter written and produced by the King County Solid Waste Division. Inclusion of a business, product or service in this newsletter does not constitute an official endorsement or sponsorship by the Solid Waste Division or King County. Send us your questions, story ideas or suggestions!

Receive Recycling Works by Email

Cut down on waste and receive *Recycling Works* via email. We'll send it to you in **Portable Document Format (PDF)** that's read with **Adobe's Acrobat Reader**. Email your name, company name and your email address to: greenworks.swd@metrokc.gov.

You may also fax your request to 206-296-4475, or call us at 206-296-8800; 1-800-833-6388 (TTY Relay).

This material will be provided in alternate formats upon request.

Did You Hear About...?!

As the **Green Works program** fine-tunes its services to improve assistance to businesses in King County, we invite any business that has reaped the benefits of recycling or waste prevention to share their story with us!

Did your company save significantly on disposal fees by starting a recycling program? Have your recycling and garbage volumes decreased as a result of reuse or waste prevention practices? Have conservation measures prevented your utility bills from skyrocketing?

Let us know so that others can benefit from your green habits! We will share selected success stories in future newsletters.

Please send your success story by December 15, 2001 to Dale Alekel, King County Solid Waste Division, 201 South Jackson Street, Suite 701, Seattle, WA 98104-3855 or email it to dale.alekel@metrokc.gov.

Thank you! ☺

Share Your Successful Recycling or Conservation Story & Inspire Other Businesses...



...and Perhaps Your Business Will be Profiled in This Newsletter!

We at King County Green Works — producer of this newsletter — take pride in putting into practice what we preach. This newsletter is printed using soy-based inks on French Paper Company's Specklestone Basics—Pepper Off-White, an acid and chlorine free 100% post-consumer non-deinked recycled paper.



What Have We Here?

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